

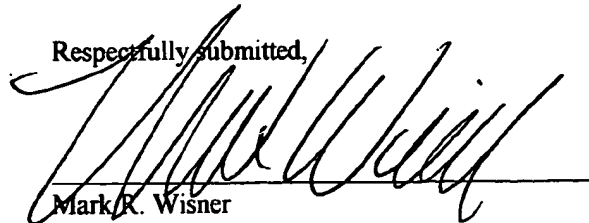
REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 1, 5, 9, and 13-18 in the Notice of Allowability mailed in the captioned application on December 12, 2003. However, upon review of the Statement on Reasons for Allowance set out in the Notice of Allowability, it became apparent that claims that are even broader than the allowed claims should also be allowable. This Second Preliminary Amendment therefore sets out minor amendments to allowed claims 1, 5, and 9 to broaden those claims, and presents new claims 19 - 25 to more fully claim that which Applicant regards as the invention, new claim 19 being the broadest claim presented in the application. Minor amendments were also made to correct grammatical and other errors to claims 1, 5, and 9 so as to present those claims in better form.

In response to the requirement for new drawings set out in paragraphs (1)-(2) of the Notice of Allowability, Applicant encloses a replacement drawing page on which Fig. 11 appears for the approval of the Examiner. 37 C.F.R. 1.121(d). Because the proposed change to Fig. 11 is a change in the size of the margin, Applicant has not marked the proposed change in red as set out in the Rules. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's help in attaching a copy of the Form PTO 948 (that was not previously mailed to Applicant) to the Notice of Allowability mailed December 12, 2003. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested in light of this proposed change to the drawings.

Also enclosed for filing in the captioned application is an Information Disclosure Statement. Entry of the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement and substitute drawing page, as well as the above amendments to the claims, consideration of the remarks set out herein, early and favorable action on the claims, and passage of the application to issuance are all respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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